PRESIDENT: You heard his speech, and it is for you to say whether you withdraw your motion or not.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): I did not hear him towards the close of his speech.

PRESIDENT: That cannot be helped.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): With the impression that he has assured me so, I withdraw my motion.

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

PRESIDENT: I now put to the vote of the House that a sum not exceeding Rs. 5·40 lakhs be granted under Demand XIV—Police.

The motion was carried and the grant was made.

The Council rose for lunch at 1-50 P. M. and re-assembled at 2-45 P. M., the Deputy President presiding.

DEMAND XV—AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES—RS. 1·74 LAKHS.

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): Sir, I move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 1·74 lakhs under Demand XV—Agriculture and Fisheries.

21 A. AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES—DIRECTION.

Motions 305 to 307.

The following motion was not moved:—

MR. K. K. THOMAS:

305. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 26,016 for Direction by Re. 1.

The following motion was deemed not to have been moved as the member was absent:—

MR. T. J. MATTHEW:

306. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 26,016 for Direction by Re. 1.

The following motion was not moved:—

MR. K. I. JOSEPH:

307. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 26,016 for Direction by Rs. 100.

21 B. AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES—EXPERIMENTAL FARMS AND MANURE DEPOTS.

Motion 308.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): I move the following motion:—

308. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 81,099 for Experimental Farms and Manure Depots by Re. 1.

In moving this motion, I wish to invite the attention of this House to the fact that on account of the increase in the cultivation of rubber in the central regions of Travancore, brushwood so necessary for the bunding of *punja* lands is being depleted. It is a matter of serious consequence for generations to come. In a few years, if the cultivation of rubber goes on at this rate, the one thing essential for the successful bunding of *punja* lands will be wanting in those regions. I request the department to consider the feasibility of providing some substitute for brushwood so that the bunds of *punja* lands may be more effectively constructed. The only available sources at present are what we call the *eeta* which is known only in the western portions. When the brushwood is entirely

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depleted, there must be some other substitute found for it. Suggestions have been offered as to the possibility of cultivating the sunn-hemp which we see growing luxuriantly in Tinnevelly and other Districts. The possibility of cultivating sunn-hemp so near the *punja* lands that it may be of some use for the construction of bunds has to be investigated by the department. I think that, because the suggestion comes from some non-official quarters, certain people feel some sort of doubt as to the success or otherwise of this measure. Experience shows that if this sunn-hemp or some other plant like that is cultivated during the monsoon months it might grow sufficiently in about six months and that might be used for the bunding of *punja* lands.

Another fact also which has to be noticed is the want of green leaf manure in Travancore. The Director has been telling us that Travancore soil is very poor in phosphates and the presence of phosphates is very essential for good production. Every year we are exporting quite a large amount of phosphatic manure in the State. I had interpellated the Government as to the possibility of restricting the export of this manure and the answer that I got was that it deserved consideration. I do not know whether the Government are going to consider the desirability or otherwise of restricting the export of the phosphatic manure like the *punnac* and other things from Travancore. I must draw the attention of the department to the desirability of restricting the export of phosphatic manure from the State.

Then, both in Central and North Travancore, I hear complaints that green leaf manure is wanting. I know, as a matter of fact, that in certain places one head-load of green leaf manure costs about 14 chackrams. That being the case, the difficulty experienced by the paddy cultivators in finding green leaf manure for the annual tillage becomes more and more difficult as years go by. So, the attention of the department has also be drawn to finding some other means by which the extension of cultivation of green leaf manure also may be introduced with more success in North and Central Travancore.

These are the only things to which I wish to draw the attention of the House. With these words, I move for the reduction of Re. 1 out of the total allotment of Rs. 81,099 for experimental farms and manure depots.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Mr. K. I. Joseph, as yours is a similar motion, if you want, you may say anything you like on this motion itself.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): I do not wish to speak.

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): Sir, the two points raised by Mr. Thomas are very interesting and important. The first is about the necessity of finding a substitute for the brushwood that is now being used for constructing bunds in *punja* lands. I fully realise the importance of this matter. I know that the brushwood available for constructing bunds is getting less and less as cultivation of dry lands develops. But there is the practical difficulty of

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finding a suitable substitute and of cultivating it in sufficient quantity to provide the necessary material for the *punja* bunds. Mr. Thomas suggested the cultivation of sunn-hemp. Sunn-hemp, Sir, is a very valuable crop. If it can be cultivated successfully, it can be put to better use than for making bunds. If the fibre is extracted from it and exported, it will fetch a very good price. Probably if sunn-hemp is cultivated successfully in Travancore and used in this manner, one acre of it may bring in a larger income than even one acre of *punja* lands. Then again, it is doubtful whether the conditions in Travancore are suitable for its cultivation. It is grown on a very large scale in Tinnevelly and other districts. There the soil is much more suitable for its growth than the soil here. The land there is more retentive of moisture for a sufficiently long time and if there is one rain, the moisture will remain in the soil for several days. Here, in Travancore, when it rains, we get too much of water but the water drains itself away in a very short time and the soil becomes too dry when there is no rain. Under these conditions, I am not sure whether sunn-hemp can be cultivated successfully in Travancore, at any rate in as large a scale as would be required to meet the needs of the *punja* cultivators.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): May I know if the Director will be pleased at least to experiment upon that?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): Certainly. I was going to say that I am prepared to cultivate it on an experimental scale to see whether it can be grown successfully and to see if it is more profitable to use it for the construction of bunds than for the extraction of fibre. Anyhow, the question of supplying suitable material for the construction of bunds is a very important one and it ought to engage the attention of the department. I shall conduct some experiments and let the House know the results in due course.

The second point raised by Mr. Thomas is the export of manures. This, Sir, is also a very important question and it has been engaging the attention of the department and latterly also of the Economic Development Board. I addressed the Government on this question on more than one occasion. Recently, a resolution was passed by the Economic Development Board pointing out the necessity of restricting the export of manures, not only phosphatic manures but organic manures also, with a view to conserve them to enrich our own soil. But the question is not so easy as it appears to be. If we want to restrict or prevent the export of these manures, the duty that is to be imposed on them must be sufficiently large to act as a check on the export. According to the Interportal Trade Convention, we are allowed to levy an *ad valorem* duty of only ten per cent. If we levy only such a duty, I doubt very much whether the small increase in the prices will be sufficient to prevent the export of these manures from Travancore. If at all, we must make the duty prohibitive, or

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if that is not possible, we must absolutely prohibit the exportation from the country. Whether the Government can do it, I am not in a position to say. But there is an aspect of the question which has to be remembered. Though we are exporting some manures from Travancore, we are importing some other manures from outside as well. We are getting, for instance, bone manures and also other artificial manures from firms outside Travancore. If we prevent the export of manures to British India—we have to remember that prawn skins and other manures go to British India not so much by sea as by land—the British Government may retaliate and prohibit the export of manures from British India to Travancore. There is the possibility of retaliation. I do not say that it will come; I only say that there is this possibility and that is why the Government in answer to the interpellation of Mr. Thomas said that this was a question requiring careful consideration. These aspects of the question have to be carefully considered before they can decide one way or the other. I am certainly in sympathy with Mr. Thomas's idea of preventing the export of manures in the interests of our agriculture.

In regard to green leaf manure, my friend Mr. C. P. Kochukunju Pillai who put a question at some session of the Council wanted to know whether the department could not undertake the cultivation of green leaf manure crops and supply seeds to the ryots for their own needs. In pursuance of this suggestion, we cultivated sunn-hemp and other crops, collected seeds in different places and advertised their sale. The response from the people was not encouraging. Very few people applied for the seeds though the price that we charged was very nominal. We kept those seeds for a year and as the people did not want them and as they had become practically useless, they had to be thrown away.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): May I know from the Director whether there would not be any response from the people if the seeds were freely distributed?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): We did distribute the seeds freely to some persons and I do not know whether the gentlemen who received them actually cultivated them or not. I have not received any information in regard to that.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Was there sufficient advertisement in this matter?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): I advertised in the Gazette, had leaflets published and distributed and asked the officers to go round and tell the people that seeds were available. These were the means I adopted in order to advertise the matter. If this was not sufficient advertisement, I do not know whether advertisement in some of the local papers would be considered sufficient.

In regard to the paucity of green leaf manures I must point out one practical difficulty in cultivating them which I think the non-official

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members do not seem to realise. Travancore is not like British India in the nature of the soil and other conditions. In the Tinnevelly District, sunn-hemp is cultivated after the harvest of the first crop. The soil is sufficiently moist and the cultivators sow this green manure seed just after or a little before the harvest. It grows at a tremendous rate and, in the course of six or eight weeks, attains a sufficient height to be cut for manure. It is only two months after the first crop that the succeeding crop is raised for which this manure, is used. In Travancore, the first crop is harvested in the end of Chingam and the second crop is transdlanted immediately afterwards. So, there is hardly any time between the two to grow green manure. Further, the soil is so dry in Kumbham and Minam that the green leaf manure would not grow there. I suggested once to the Government, when I heard complaints about it, the desirability, if possible, of letting the ryots have some water from the Kodayar reservoir, even on payment of a nominal water—cess, for two or three weeks after the harvest of the Kumbham crop. There were practical difficulties in sanctioning this proposal. It was doubtful whether the Kodayar reservoir had sufficient water and so the Government did not think it advisable to give a promise to let the ryots have water for growing green leaf manure. We have got to face this practical difficulty. Our country is not like British India where they have got every facility for the cultivation of green leaf manure crops on paddy lands themselves and here we have none. In South Travancore, the ryots are cultivating manure trees such as *Konnai*, *Vahai* and *Chilanti* wherever waste lands are available to grow them and they are using these as manure for paddy cultivation. This practice is not common in North Travancore. Near Perumpavur, we have just started as an experiment the cultivation of a few acres with *Konnai*, *Vahai* and *Chilanti*. My object in doing this is simply to show the people the cultivation of these trees, the leaves of which can be used for manure and make them realise that the waste lands can be made use of for this purpose. This seems to be one way of popularising the green leaf manure in Travancore. The other method, *viz.*, the popularisation of the cultivation of annual crops, as is done in British India, is beset with difficulties. These difficulties, as far as possible, we are trying our best to overcome. If the people would also co-operate leaf to the cultivation of green, manure trees, I am sure, we will be able to show some substantial progress in that direction.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): After hearing the Director of Agriculture, I feel that the difficulties have been appreciated and that the experiment will be started later on. I think there is no use in discussing this and so I withdraw the motion.

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

Motion 309.

The following motion was not moved:—

MR. K. I. JOSEPH:

309. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 81,099 for experimental farms and manure depots by Rs. 100.

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21 C. AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES—AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL.

Motion 310.

MR. C. P. TARAKAN (*Kunnatnad*) I beg to move the following motion :—

310. To omit the allotment of Rs. 5,518 for the opening of an Agricultural School at Kottarakara.

കൊട്ടാരക്കര താലൂക്കിൽ ഒരു കൃഷിസ്കൂൾ സ്ഥാപിക്കുന്നതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് എനിക്ക് അശേഷം അസൂയ ഇല്ലാ എന്ന് ആദ്യമായി പ്രസ്താവിച്ചുകൊള്ളട്ടെ. ഇപ്പോൾ തന്നെ ആലുവായിൽ ഒരു കൃഷി സ്കൂൾ ഉണ്ട്. അതു വീണ്ടും രണ്ടുകൊല്ലത്തേക്കു പരീക്ഷാർത്ഥമായി നടത്താൻ ഗവർണ്മെൻറു തീച്ചയാക്കിയിരിക്കുന്നതായി കാണുന്നു. ഇപ്പോൾ ആലുവായിൽ സ്ഥാപിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള കൃഷിസ്കൂൾ കൊണ്ടു യഥാർത്ഥത്തിൽ ഗുണമുണ്ട് എന്നു ഗവർണ്മെൻറിനു തോന്നുന്നു എങ്കിൽ അതു സ്ഥിരപ്പെടുത്താതിരിക്കുന്നതു് എന്താണെന്നു മനസ്സിലാകുന്നില്ല. അതു സ്ഥിരപ്പെടുത്താതിരിക്കുന്നിടത്തോളം കാലം ഈ മാതിരി കൃഷിസ്കൂളുകൾ സ്ഥാപിക്കുന്നതിൽ ഗവർണ്മെൻറിനു സംശയം ഉള്ളതുപോലെ തോന്നുന്നു. ഇങ്ങിനെ എങ്കിൽ ആ ജാതിയിലുള്ള മറെറാരു സ്കൂൾ സ്ഥാപിക്കുന്നതിനു പണം ചിലവാക്കുന്നതു ന്യായമല്ല. ആലുവാ കൃഷിസ്കൂൾകൊണ്ടു് എന്തെങ്കിലും പ്രയോജനം ഉണ്ടെന്നു ഗവർണ്മെൻറിനു തോന്നുന്നു എങ്കിൽ ആ മാതിരി വേറെ സ്കൂൾ സ്ഥാപിക്കുന്നതിനു് എനിക്കു വിപരീതാഭിപ്രായമില്ലാ. അങ്ങിനെ തോന്നിയിട്ടില്ലെങ്കിൽ പുതിയ സ്കൂൾ സ്ഥാപിക്കുന്നതു് അനാവശ്യമാണെന്നാണു് എൻറെ അഭിപ്രായം.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*) : Sir, when I saw the motion as it is, I thought I would strongly oppose the motion. But after hearing Mr. Tarakan, I think it is not his desire to stop this school altogether. What he stated now is that he wants confirmation of the Alwaye school at first and then start this Kottarakara school. I have no objection to confirm the school at Alwaye if the department so thinks. But my objection is that this allotment should not be omitted and the school has to be opened in Kottarakara. I was listening to the discussion that was going on in this Council last time with regard to the Alwaye school. Of course, it was said by some members here that that school was not thriving. Probably, that may be the reason why the Government have not passed final orders to confirm the same. But that is no reason why another school should not be opened at Kottarakara. A school may thrive in one place and it may not thrive in another place. According to me, I cannot say that even the Alwaye school is not thriving because, from the discussion that was

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going on in the last Council, I learn that in the first year there were 131 applicants for admission to the school of whom only 50 were selected and the next year, there were 50 applicants of whom only 15 were selected. I thought that one argument that was advanced by the Government in not having confirmed the school was that the students who came out successfully from that institution did not get Government employment. But I may answer that question. Sir, these are very hard days for people to get employment in Government service. Of course I do not want to go into details. On account of that, though those students who come out successful from those institutions may not get Government jobs, I am sure they will be forced to take to cultivation. I remember that the Director of Agriculture has been telling us the other day that he is proposing a scheme to Government suggesting certain means by which the people would take to cultivation on their own initiative. I do not know whether such a proposal has been sent to Government and whether the Government have passed final orders upon it.

MR. C. P. TARAKAN (*Kunnatnad*): It has been sanctioned.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): If it has been sanctioned, I think even the school at Alwaye cannot become a failure. At any rate all that I have to say now is that I hope that, if a school at Kottarakara is opened, it has a safe chance of thriving, and the people there will do their utmost to make that institution a useful one. With these few observations, I do not know whether I should support the motion or oppose it.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Are you against the motion or for it?

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): I oppose it.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): Sir, with regard to starting a new school at Kottarakara, so long as they have not made up their mind on the question of making permanent the school at Alwaye, the only consideration that would justify such a step is that the doubts of the Government in regard to the school at Alwaye are based upon any peculiar circumstances connected with the situation of the school at Alwaye. As far as I have been aware, no difficulty or doubt has been raised with regard to making the school at Alwaye permanent, in relation to the location of the school at Alwaye. All the difficulties and doubts, as far as I know, have arisen from the circumstance, as pointed out by Mr. Kochukunju Pillai, that there has not been that enthusiasm on the part of young men to come forward for education in that school as was evident in the first year. Even then, according to the statement that has been made, there were 50 applicants of whom only 15 were chosen. So, the difficulty that has been felt is that students who come out of the school find that they have no employment either in the Government or in private capacities, and those who come into the school come in mostly hoping that they would get Government employment. Since

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they find that they do not get such employment, it is not likely that the school would continue to be popular. If that is the real difficulty, I cannot understand how the changing of the school from Alwaye to Kottarakara can improve the situation. Personally, I think that the Government cannot afford to be without at least one agricultural school in the State, considering the great importance of the occupation of agriculture to the people.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara cum Kunnattur*): May I point out to Mr. Thomas that in the budget it is stated that they are going to open a new school at Kottarakara, for which there was a building already constructed last year and provision is made in this year's budget to put up a hostel or some other building of the sort? When there is no proposal, so far as I can see in the budget, for shifting the school from Alwaye to Kottarakara, may I know where he got this information from?

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): I do not exactly mean that the Alwaye school is sought to be shifted to Kottarakara. My point was that so long as the difficulties are of the nature I have described, there is no meaning in the Government not deciding to make the Alwaye school permanent but thinking of trying an experiment at Kottarakara. Of course, I might assure Mr. Kochukunju Pillai that I am not speaking against the opening of a new school at Kottarakara. But I only want to point out the unreasonableness of opening it before making the school at Alwaye permanent. My further point is that it is necessary that there should be at least one agricultural school in the State. If so, there is no reason why they should not make the Alwaye school permanent. Even if they find that the school at Alwaye need not be continued but only the school at Kottarakara, there would be no difficulty for the Government to accommodate the staff now at Alwaye.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): Is there any reason why the member should apprehend the abolition of the Alwaye school?

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): It is because of the fact that even after four years the Government had not made up their mind to make it permanent. I am of opinion that it is high time that the Government considered and finally decided the question of making the Alwaye school permanent and then they would be in a better position to launch the scheme with regard to the opening of a school at Kottarakara.

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*): Sir, last year, I think, I protested against the multiplication of the Agricultural schools and manure depôts. I suggested that there should be greater concentration and that, in response to the often unintelligent demands of the people, the Director of Agriculture should not fritter away the energies of the department. People are under the impression that by starting a manure depot here or a school there, the shortcomings and difficulties of the cultivators could be overcome. I do not know the circumstances which necessitated the opening of the Kottarakara school

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[Mr. K. C. Mammen Mappillai.]

when the fate of the Alwaye school has not been finally decided. I am aware of the fact that there has been a great diminution in the number of pupils seeking admission to the Alwaye school.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): May I know whether Mr. Mammen Mappillai was not listening to the President of the last Council when he was speaking about the necessity of opening more schools.

MR. K C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*): I raised my voice against any further opening of the schools till we had already consolidated the existing schools on a proper basis.

The great necessity is to make the Alwaye school sufficiently attractive so that the time may come when demand for admission to this school could not be adequately met by one school. It may be desirable to think of opening more schools then. I think the Director of Agriculture has adumbrated a scheme and submitted it to the Government for sufficient encouragement being given to the pupils coming out of the Alwaye school. His scheme is to the effect that those who have received a satisfactory training in the Alwaye school should be given a few acres of land and a small capital in order to cultivate the plots of land given to them on a scientific basis and eventually to return the capital.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): May I know whether Mr. Mammen Mappillai is aware of the extent of the Agricultural Farm at Konni?

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*): I have absolutely no idea.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): It is more than 300 or 400 acres in extent.

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*): I do not know what is the bearing of the extent of the Konni farm upon the observations that I am making. The fact is that I should like to see that the Alwaye school is made sufficiently attractive by carrying out the recommendation of the Director of Agriculture. I do not know whether it is being carried out or whether the Government have passed any orders upon it. But it appeared to me that it was a very useful and a very intelligent suggestion. It is not sufficient that the Government sanction new schemes submitted by the Director of Agriculture or the Director of Industries. The Government should have a consistent and continuous policy in regard to these departments so that the schemes once started should be given sufficient scope for normal development. For want of continuity in policy, schemes which are started with certain ideas are allowed to die of inanition, because the person sanctioning them by and by disappears. The consequence is that there is a waste and misdirection in both these departments. The encouragement to be given to the passed candidates of the Alwaye school is only one of several such instances. And, therefore, I

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would urge upon the attention of the Government the desirability of giving sufficient encouragement to the schemes already started rather than allow new schemes to be started like mushrooms.

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): Sir, there seems to be some misunderstanding on the part of the non-official members of this House about the Alwaye Agricultural School and I shall try to clear that misunderstanding. I am glad that Mr. C. P. Tarakan is not against the opening of an Agricultural School at Kottarakara. He only wants the Alwaye school to be made permanent before the Government start another school. In regard to the Alwaye school, I may in this connection give its past history. It was started about four years ago with the help of funds raised by the people. After the buildings were constructed, the people requested the Government to take charge of the buildings and start the school and the Government did accordingly. In the first year, there were nearly 100 applicants for admission to the school and 20 were selected. The first batch of students passed out of the school at the end of 1099 and immediately everyone of them came to me with applications for appointment. I told them even before they were admitted to the school that they should not look up to Government appointments. They agreed to this then, probably with the idea of getting admission to the school. The number of students in the second batch was far less than the number in the first. There were about 50 applicants and about 15 were selected. The second batch also passed out at the end of the last year. Before they had the chance of bombarding me with applications for appointments, I sent up a scheme to the Government to encourage the cultivation of lands by these students and I may inform the House that the Government have sanctioned my scheme. The scheme is simply this. 300 acres of waste lands at Konni are to be divided among 30 trained students. Each student is to be given one plot of 10 acres. The details of cultivation have not yet been decided upon. My idea is to allow one acre to each man for putting up his farmstead and for his kitchen garden and 4 acres for the cultivation of ordinary crops like hill-paddy, tapioca, etc. I want 5 acres at least to be planted with permanent crops like cocoanut and rubber for which the land is well-suited. If 30 students come in, there will be 150 acres of rubber and cocoanut and 120 acres of other crops, and about 50 acres will be reserved as grazing grounds which can be used by all the 30 students. The Government will give each student a loan of Rs 250 for the purchase of cattle, implements, etc., and timber, free of cost, for the construction of buildings. The students have no tax to pay for two years and from the third year, they will have to pay the normal tax. In about 10 years, they will have to repay the money lent to them. I have been cherishing this scheme for a long time and I am glad that my scheme has now been sanctioned by the Government. I have already requested Mr. Robinson to lend me the services of two surveyors from his department to subdivide the area and he has done accordingly. The surveyors have already made some progress in their work. My idea is to start cultivation early next year.

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DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Is it early this year or next year?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): Early this year. (*Laughter.*) Oh! I forget that we are in the new year.

All the 30 trained students have sent in their applications for lands. Previously, all of them wanted to get Government appointments and they are now very eager to get lands. Even one of the peons in my department who is getting Rs. 10 and who has had training in the Alwaye school is prepared to take up cultivation. It is no use sending idlers there and I want to make a selection, and I hope to select at least 20 out of the whole lot.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): May I know the total number of students who have passed from the Alwaye school?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): Excluding departmental men who have also been trained there, 30 students were trained in the two batches together. A few departmental men were also trained; one of them is prepared to resign his job if he could get lands for cultivation.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): May I know the number of departmental men who are trained?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): Five in both the batches together.

I expect that, in the course of this year, these 20 men will go and settle down at Konni. My idea is to make this a regular colony. I may probably start a school and a co-operative store there later on to make it a sort of self-contained colony. Personally, I do not think that there will be any difficulty in attracting students to the Alwaye school if this scheme proves a success. The applicants for admission to the school will see that the Government have started a new scheme which will give them plenty of opportunities to take to cultivation and hence there will be sufficient number of students coming forward to join the school.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): May I know the number of students at present in the Alwaye school?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): We have not yet opened the school. The school closed by the middle of Karkatakam 1101 and will re-open after the Onam holidays. I wanted to know whether the Government would sanction the continuance of the school before I made arrangements to re-open it.

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*): Does not the Director of Agriculture think that, even under such circumstances, it would be desirable to try and see the effect of the new scheme before he starts another school?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): I am coming to that. I do not think that there will be any difficulty in attracting students if the new scheme proves successful. If the non-official members are really keen on making the Alwaye school permanent, I can give the assurance on behalf of the Government that this

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matter will be very carefully considered by Government, and if they find the new scheme becoming popular, they may probably decide to make the school permanent.

But that is no reason why we should not start another school now. The idea of a school at Kottarakara came up like this. For several years, there have been repeated representations in the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly from the members for Quilon and Kottarakara taluks for a school being opened either at Quilon or Kottarakara and Mr. Raghaviah once promised that the question would be considered at an early date. It was in pursuance of that promise that steps were taken to construct the buildings at Kottarakara and to start the school as early as possible. If a school is started at Kottarakara, the students will find it more convenient than Alwaye, because Kottarakara is in Central Travancore while Alwaye is far in the north.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): The member speaks of persistent demands from the representatives of the people. May I know from what part of the State was this persistent demand made?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): From the representatives for Quilon and Kottarakara taluks.

I do not think that we have made provision for opening the school this year. The construction of buildings was started last year and may be completed this year and, in all probability, the school may be opened next year.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether the Director will be satisfied with a single school in a central place in Travancore?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): In these days when people are agitating for agricultural education, the more schools we have the better, if the people are going to be benefited by them. If the people show a desire for more schools, I do not see why we should not have more schools than one.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether the Director of Agriculture will be satisfied with one school for the purpose for which it was intended?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): I would like to have more schools if my scheme proves a success.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): May I know whether the Director has considered the advisability of opening an agricultural school in the Kuttanad regions or in South Travancore *suo motu* without any demand?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): I have not considered the question, because, as I said, a school was opened first at Alwaye and then the demand came from the people of Kottarakara. After opening the Kottarakara school we will see whether there is any demand for more schools and if there is demand we will open more. It is not possible to open schools everywhere at the same time. *Festina lente* is a good maxim to follow in this case.

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MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): May I know whether any minimum qualification is prescribed for admission to the Alwaye school?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): Yes. At first we did not fix any qualification and admitted everybody who knew how to read and write. We then found that they were not able to understand much of what was taught in the school and therefore fixed the Vernacular School Leaving Examination or a knowledge of English up to the third form standard as the minimum qualification for admission.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether it is proposed to open the school at Kottarakara simply because there was a demand or because there was necessity?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): There was demand from the people and hence it was thought there was necessity.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): The scheme detailed by Dr. Kunjan Pillai appears to be very attractive. In fact, the concessions allowed seem to be so alluring that, but for the different circumstances in which I am placed at present, I should have gladly accepted a studentship in the Alwaye Agricultural school. (*Laughter.*) I can assure the Director of Agriculture that, if we were to open a school at Neyyattinkara or somewhere near, he will not certainly have any reason to complain of want of students provided, of course, the concessions that he has now put forward continue to be forthcoming from the Government. However, the question as to whether the opening of a school at Kottarakara should be deferred until the Government decide that the Alwaye school should be made permanent need not detain us. It is very desirable that as many schools as possible should be opened and concessions held out.

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*): Suppose 50 schools are opened and from each school 20 students pass. May I know whether the providing of 10 acres of land to these 1,000 students will not deplete the Cherikkal lands?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: When a sufficient number of students are educated, the concessions will be withdrawn. (*Laughter.*)

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): Progressively withdrawn.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): I was closely listening to the speech of the Director of Agriculture, but I was not able to understand the policy underlying the establishment of the school at Kottarakara as well as of similar institutions elsewhere. He stated that there were 30 students in the Alwaye school and that, after passing the examination, all of them applied for appointments. To solve the

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difficulty, the Director suggested to the Government the idea of distributing lands at Konni and to give certain concessions for the working up of those lands.

What the original policy of the Government in opening the school at Alwaye was, is not made clear. If their idea was only to turn out qualified agriculturists who have no sort of facilities for undertaking agricultural work themselves and who would be troubling the head of the department for appointments, I do not think there is any justification for continuing such an institution.

Regarding the suggestion of affording facilities to those who have passed out of the Alwaye school, I do not think it to be useful in the interests of the State. As Mr. G. Paramesvaran Pillai was suggesting, there will be many persons coming forward if lands are given them on such concessions. He himself would be coming forward—that was what he said.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): No, Sir, I would have come forward under different circumstances.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): If, as he himself says, under different circumstances, a man of his status will be coming forward, there cannot be any doubt that many will be coming forward if such concessions are given by the Government. But, as Mr. Mammen Mappillai said, it will not be possible for the Government to give land to all such people. So, I do not see the necessity for further students being trained for such purposes, nor do I think that it will promote the general interests of the State in any way. Dr. Kunjan Pillai was saying that three hundred acres of land are being dedicated at Konni for this purpose. He was finding fault with the school at Alwaye, because it was situated in the northern part of Travancore and he wanted a school in the centre of Travancore at Kottarakara. If so, I do not see how the people of the State will be generally benefited if improved cultivation is carried on in a particular locality alone. If the Government have got any idea of improving the general agriculture of the country, instead of giving all the three hundred acres of land in one particular place to be model farms, they should provide land in all parts of Travancore for the purpose. I fail to see any general policy underlying the establishment of the agricultural schools in the State. I would say that this sort of schools is unnecessary and should be abolished. I think it would be enough if pupils are given instruction on these subjects in classes in the ordinary schools.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: But are these not days of specialisation?

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): But we see that under present conditions there are not enough pupils going in for specialisation work. They would like to go in for appointments on Rs. 10 or Rs. 15 rather than take to agriculture. If persons who own extensive lands and who have got other facilities go in for specialisation in agriculture, one can understand the need for such schools. But, in Travancore,

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[Mr. K. I. Joseph.]

the persons who go in for this agricultural study are very poor and cannot stand independently for doing any agricultural work. I do not think they will be much benefited by these institutions. In the case of the ordinary schools, pupils come from all classes and if they are given instruction on agricultural subjects also along with other subjects, they will be benefited by that. If the Government intend to have such sort of instruction given under the existing circumstances, they will have to afford the necessary facilities to every student who goes in for such study. They will have to be given ten acres of land apiece along with other concessions or else they will be forced to trouble the head of the department for Government service on Rs. 10 or Rs. 15. I think such a state of affairs should not be allowed to continue.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Sir, I support the motion of Mr. Tarakan. I wish very much not only to omit the allotment of the Kottarakara school, but also that of the Alwaye school. It seems to me that, as a result of the discussion that has transpired here, the prospective institution at Kottarakara and the temporary institution at Alwaye are creating an apple of discord in this House while the children are fighting against their fathers to go into these schools. That was why I put a question to the Director of Agriculture as to the real purpose served by the Agricultural school at Alwaye and what are the things absent in that school to be attended to. By knowing these difficulties, we may be able to provide against them in the school to be started at Kottarakara. Kottarakara being a central place, the school might be utilised by all students who might come from north and south. Anyhow, I fail to understand whether the Director made out a case for the agricultural school itself. As I closely followed him, he had a scheme which was very tempting, as Mr. Paramesvaran Pillai put it, for giving the pupils ten acres each. When these two schools are opened, I believe the Director is going to open further schools as at Kottarakara or at Alwaye; for, he says, not only youngsters but also grown up men are available in the State in large numbers who will go in for study if lands are given to them.

MR P. K. NARAYANAN PLLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): Is it the case of the Director that these lands will be registered in the names of these people?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Yes, after ten years at a nominal tax.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I think he said that the usual assessment may be fixed after ten years.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): He says a large number of persons who will be prepared to go into the field are available in the State itself.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): But are they persons who have got training in these schools if they are to go in for this work?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): That is what I understood. These people who can ill afford to find ten acres for their agricultural purposes will go in for this study. Even if they are willing to go, they

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will not be able to go in for agriculture on scientific lines; it requires much investment. Even without these schools, persons who are interested in agriculture are available in large numbers provided they are occasionally given instruction in scientific methods of cultivation and there is supervision by the experts of the Agricultural Department. Experts are available in large numbers. There are such experts as the Agricultural Expert, Oil Expert, and other experts. So, what I say is that there is absolutely no necessity for starting an agricultural school in our country inhabited as it is with agricultural population.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): May I ask the member whether in that case there is any use of such a department?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): There is use of it with their experts and experiments.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Do you wish to do away with agricultural loans, industrial loans, etc.?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): What I say is that when no case has been made out for such an institution in a country of agriculturists, there is no use of spending money for further institutions.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Quilon*): Does the member say that agricultural schools will be only useful in a commercial country?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Certainly not. It may serve a purpose in a museum here if there are people appointed as experts in such a department. But in this country, people do possess the required knowledge of agriculture. The only thing is that, if at all, these schools are intended to give specialisation on scientific lines. What the Director wants us to understand is not at all possible in view of the general poverty of the land.

MR. C. P. TARAKAN (*Kunnatnad*): കൊട്ടാരക്കരയുള്ള സ്കൂൾ അടുത്തകൊല്ലത്തിൽ മാത്രമെ ആരംഭിക്കാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നുള്ളു എന്നും അതിനിടയ്ക്ക് അലുവാസ്കൂൾ സ്ഥിരപ്പെടുത്തുമെന്നും കൃഷി ഡയറക്ടർ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതിനാൽ ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ ഞാൻ പിൻവലിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: What the Director said was that the school may be opened only next year, but the building will be constructed this year.

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

Motion 311.

The following motion was not moved:—

MR. K. K. THOMAS:

311. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 10,936 for Agricultural School by Re. 1.

Motion 312.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil cum Devicolam*): I have already said what I had to say on this motion.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: If it is practically the same thing, then you are out of order in moving this motion.

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MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): If the President rules the motion out of order, I do not want to move it.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: If the motion refers to the same thing, you are out of order.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): The Director of Agriculture did not get an opportunity to reply to what I said. I may therefore move this in order to afford him an opportunity to do so.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: That is his look-out.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): May I ask the member if his motion is substantially identical with the previous one?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: It is substantially identical.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Supposing he has got new ideas?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: He says that he has already stated his ideas. There are only two agricultural schools and he has given his views about them. I do not think we need travel over the ground again.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Is it the ruling from the Chair?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Yes, I rule the motion out of order.

The following motion was accordingly not moved:

MR. K. I. JOSEPH:

312. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 10,936 for Agricultural School by Rs. 100.

Motion 313.

MR. C. P. TARAKAN (*Kunnatnad*): I beg to move the following motion:—

313. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 1·74 lakhs under Demand XV by Re. 1.

കക്കാലേലും മേലാൽ ആവശ്യമില്ല എന്ന പ്രസ്താപിക്കാനാണ ഞാൻ ഈ മോഷൻ കൊണ്ടുവന്നിട്ടുള്ളത്. അതുനിമിത്തം ഗവർ ണ്മെൻറിലേക്കു കേവലം നിസ്സാരമായിട്ടുള്ള സംഖ്യ മാത്രമാണ ലഭി ച്ചുവരുന്നത്. അതിൽനിന്നും ഉണ്ടാകുന്ന ജനോപദ്രവത്തിനും ഗ വർണ്മെൻറിനു ലഭിച്ചുവരുന്ന ആദായത്തിനും യാതൊരു സാമ്യവും ഇല്ലാതേയാണ് ഇരിക്കുന്നത്. എന്നുമാത്രവുമല്ല, ഗവർണ്മെൻറിനു കിട്ടാൻ ഉള്ള ആദായം വളരെ കുറവും ജനങ്ങൾക്കുള്ള കഷ്ടത വളരെ കൂടുതലും ആണ്. എന്നാൽ കൺട്രാക്ടർക്കു നല്ല ആദായം കിട്ടുന്നുമുണ്ട്. എല്ലാവിഷയത്തിലും ഇതുപോലെ കൺട്രക്ടന്മാർക്കു ധാരാളം ലാഭം കിട്ടും. അതിനാൽ ജനസങ്കടത്തെ വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കുന്നതും കൺട്രാക്ടന്മാർക്കു മാത്രം ധാരാളം ലാഭമെടുക്കാൻ സൌകര്യം ഉണ്ടാ ക്കിക്കൊടുക്കുന്നതും ഗവർണ്മെൻറിന് അതിനു തക്ക ആദായം കിട്ടാതി

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രിക്കുന്നതുമായ ഈ ഏർപ്പാട് ആവശ്യമില്ലാ എന്നാണ് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം. ഈ തത്വം ഇവിടെ ടോളിനെപ്പറ്റി പ്രസ്താവിച്ചപ്പോൾ എല്ലാവരും എടുത്തു പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ട്.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : കക്കായുടെ വിലയിൽ വ്യത്യാസം ഉണ്ടോ?

MR. C. P. TARAKAN (*Kunnatnad*): വളരെ വ്യത്യാസം ഉണ്ട്.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : എന്തു വ്യത്യാസം ഉണ്ട്?

MR. C. P. TARAKAN (*Kunnatnad*): കക്കാലേലം നടത്തുന്നതിനു മുമ്പുള്ളതിനേക്കാൾ ഇപ്പോൾ ഇരട്ടിവില ഞങ്ങളുടെ ഭാഗത്തുണ്ട്. മറ്റു ഭാഗങ്ങളിൽ ഉള്ള വില ഇവിടെയുള്ള മറ്റു മെമ്പറന്മാർക്ക് അറിയാമെന്നുള്ളതിനാൽ അവർ പറയുമെന്നു വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Mr. Kochukunju Pillai, you have got an identical motion.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): I will speak later on.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*) : ഞാൻ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ ബലമായി പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു. കൃഷിക്കും ഭവനങ്ങൾ പണിയിക്കുന്നതിനും ഏറ്റവും അത്യാവശ്യമായ ഒരു സാധനമായിട്ടാണ് കുമ്മായത്തെ ഗണിച്ചുവിളിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളത്. കുമ്മായം ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്ന കക്കായ ഫാക്ടറിക്കായലിൽ നിന്നുവാരി വള്ളത്തിൽകയറ്റി ചുരുങ്ങിയവിലക്കു വിറ്റുകൊണ്ടിരുന്ന സമ്പ്രദായത്തിൽനിന്നും ഇതു കുത്തകച്ചരക്കായതോടുകൂടി അനേകംപേരും വിരമിക്കയാണു ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളത്. മുമ്പിലത്തെപ്പോലെ ഇതു വ്യാപാരം നടത്തിയാൽ വ്യാജച്ചരക്കായിട്ടു രീതിയുള്ള വിചാരത്തോടുകൂടി കച്ചവടക്കാർ പിൻമാറുകയും വില്പനക്കാക്ക് അസൌകര്യം ഉണ്ടാകയും വിലക്കുടിവരികയും ചെയ്യും. കുറെനാൾക്കു മുമ്പു ഭവനങ്ങൾ പണിയുന്നതിനു കുമ്മായം ധാരാളമായിട്ടു ഉപയോഗിച്ചുവന്നിരുന്ന ആളുകൾ ഇപ്പോൾ കുമ്മായം കിട്ടാതെ വയലിൽനിന്നും ചെളിവാരി ഉപയോഗിച്ചുതുടങ്ങിയിരിക്കുന്നു. കുറച്ചുനാൾക്കു മുമ്പു ഒരാൾ ഇപ്രകാരം ചെയ്തപ്പോൾ ഞാൻ അയാളോടു ചോദിച്ചതിനു, മണ്ണിനെക്കാൾ കുറച്ചുകൂടിബലം ചെളിക്കുണ്ടെന്നും, ഇപ്പോൾ കുമ്മായം കിട്ടുകയില്ലെന്നും ഇനിവർഷകാലമായാൽ കുത്തകക്കാരന്റെ അനുമതിയോടുകൂടി കുമ്മായം വില്പനയ്ക്കു കൊണ്ടുവന്നാൽ മാത്രമേകിട്ടുകയുള്ളു എന്നും മറുപടിപറഞ്ഞു.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*) : കക്കാലേലം തുടങ്ങുന്നതിനു മുമ്പു ചെളിയിൽ കെട്ടിടം കെട്ടാറില്ലേ?

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MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): എല്ലാവരും അങ്ങിനെ ചെയ്യാറില്ലായിരുന്നു. ഇപ്പോൾ ഒരുമാതിരി ഗൃഹസ്ഥന്മാരായ ആളുകൾക്കൂടി കുമ്മായത്തിനുപകരം ചെളി ഉപയോഗിച്ചു തുടങ്ങിട്ടുണ്ട്. ധാരാളം മഴയുള്ള മലയോരങ്ങളിൽ ഈ മാതിരിചെളികൊണ്ടു കെട്ടിടങ്ങൾ കെട്ടിയാൽ ഇടിഞ്ഞുപോകുന്നതും, അതു നിമിത്തം സാധുക്കളായ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു വളരെ സങ്കടം ഉണ്ടാകുന്നതുമാണ്.

കൃഷിഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിന്റെ പരിശ്രമഫലമായി സാധിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള കാര്യങ്ങൾ ഒറ്റ ഞാർനടീലും കുമ്മായം വളമിടിലും ആണെന്നു പറഞ്ഞു വരുന്നു. ഞങ്ങളുടെ നാട്ടിൽ കുമ്മായവളം ഉപയോഗിച്ചുവന്നിരുന്നില്ല. എപ്പോൾ അതിന്റെഗുണം മനസ്സിലാക്കി ഉപയോഗിച്ചുതുടങ്ങിയോ അപ്പോൾ മുതൽ അതുകിട്ടാതെയായി. ഈ കക്കാലേലകൊണ്ട് ഗവർണ്മെൻറിനു സാരമായ യാതൊരുപ്രയോജനവുമില്ല. തുശ്ചമായ ഒരു സംഖ്യമാത്രമേ കിട്ടുന്നൊള്ളു. വലുതായ ഒരു തുക ജനങ്ങൾക്കു നഷ്ടപ്പെടുന്നും ഉണ്ട്. ജനങ്ങൾ ഒരു രൂപാനഷ്ടപ്പെട്ടാൽ ഗവർണ്മെൻറിനു രൂ രൂപാകിട്ടുകയാണെങ്കിൽ ഞങ്ങൾക്കു സങ്കടമില്ല.

മുമ്പെ പാട്ടക്ക് ഒരു ചക്രാമയി കിട്ടിക്കൊണ്ടിരുന്ന കക്കായ്ക്ക് ഇപ്പോൾ ൈ ചക്രത്തോളം വിലയുണ്ട്. മൂവാറ്റുപുഴ, തൊടുപുഴ, കുന്നത്തുനാടു മുതലായ മലയോരനിവാസികൾക്ക് ഇതു വളരെ സങ്കടത്തെ ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്ന ഒരു സംഗതിയാണ്.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): മൂവാറ്റുപുഴ താലൂക്കിൽ കക്കായുണ്ടോ?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): കുമരകം മുതലായ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽനിന്നുമാണു കക്കാ അവിടങ്ങളിലേക്കു കൊണ്ടു വരുന്നത്.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): ചാരം മുതലായ മറ്റു വളങ്ങൾക്കും വില കൂടുതലുണ്ടോ?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): ചാരം മുതലായതു അവിടെ ധാരാളം ഉണ്ട്. അതൊന്നും വില കൊടുത്തുവാങ്ങിക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ല.

MR. N. V. JOSEPH (*Parur*): ഒരു കെട്ടിടത്തിന് എത്രശതമാനം കല്ലും മണ്ണും ആകും?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): അങ്ങിനെ ഞാൻ ശതമാനം കണക്കുകൂട്ടിനോക്കീട്ടില്ല.

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MR. N. V. JOSEPH (*Parur*): കുമ്മായത്തിന്റെ വില അല്പം കൂടിയതുകൊണ്ടു ചെളി കൊണ്ടു കെട്ടിടം പണിയുന്നു എന്നു പറഞ്ഞു.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): കുമ്മായത്തിന്റെ വില സ്വല്പം കൂടിയതു കൊണ്ടല്ല. അധികം കൂടിയതു കൊണ്ടാണു് എന്നാണു് ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞതു്.

MR. N. V. JOSEPH (*Parur*): ഉദ്ദേശം എത്ര ശതമാനം വരുമെന്നു പറയാമോ?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): അതു മുമ്പുപറഞ്ഞുവല്ലോ. കക്കായ്ക്കു വിലകൂടിയതുകൊണ്ടു സാധാരണ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു കുമ്മായം വാങ്ങി ഭവനം പണിയുന്നതിനു വളരെ പ്രയാസം ഉണ്ടു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു ചെളി ഉപയോഗിക്കുന്നു. ഗവർമ്മെൻറിനു കക്കാലേലത്തിൽ നിന്നു വലിയ ആദായം കിട്ടുന്നെങ്കിൽ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു കുറെ സമാധാനമുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. അതുമില്ലാ.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devikulam*): ഗവർമ്മെൻറിനു് ഇപ്പോൾ എന്താദായം കിട്ടുന്നുണ്ടു്?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): ഗവർമ്മെൻറിനു് അയ്യായിരമോ ആറായിരമോ രൂപാ കിട്ടുന്നുണ്ടു്. ക്ലിപ്തമായിട്ടു ബഡ്ജറിൽ കാണിച്ചിട്ടില്ല.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): 8000-ൽ ചിലപ്പോൾ രൂപായാണു്.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): പണ്ടു് ഒരു പറയ്ക്കു് ഒരു ചക്രമായിരുന്നതു് ഇപ്പോൾ ഏഴു ചക്രം വരെയായിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു ഞാൻ മുമ്പേ പറഞ്ഞതല്ലോ. രണ്ടു ലക്ഷമോ മൂന്നു ലക്ഷമോ പറ കക്കാ ജനങ്ങൾക്കാവശ്യമുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അതു ജനങ്ങൾക്കു ഭീമമായ ഒരു നഷ്ടത്തിനും കൺട്രാക്ടർമാക്കു് ഒരു വലിയ ലാഭത്തിനും കാരണമായിത്തീരുന്നു. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഈ ഏർപ്പാടു നിർത്തണം.

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): ഒരു ചക്രം വില എന്നു പറഞ്ഞതു് പാട്ടയ്ക്കോ, പറയ്ക്കോ?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): പറയ്ക്കാണു്.

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): മദ്രാസു പറയ്ക്കാണോ?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): സാധാരണ നാടൻപറയ്ക്കു്; അങ്ങിനെയുള്ള ഫുൾ പറ ആണു് ഒരു പാട്ട.

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): ഒരു ചക്രമായിരുന്നതു് ഇപ്പോൾ ഏഴു ചക്രമായിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

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MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): മൂവാറ്റുപുഴതാലൂക്കിൽ പെട്ട കോതമംഗലം, കുട്ടമംഗലം മുതലായ പകുതികളിൽ ആറും ഏഴും ചക്രംവീതം ഒരു പറയ്ക്ക വിലയുണ്ട്.

MR. N. V. JOSEPH (*Parur*): കുന്നത്തുനാട്ട താലൂക്കിൽ കുമരകത്തേക്കാൾ ഇരട്ടിയെ വിലയുള്ള എന്ന് ആ താലൂക്കു മെമ്പർ പറഞ്ഞല്ലോ?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): അദ്ദേഹത്തിനു കുന്നത്തുനാട്ട താലൂക്കിലുള്ള എല്ലാ സ്ഥലത്തേയുംപറ്റി അറിവില്ലായിരിക്കാം. അശമന്നൂർ മുതലായ പകുതികളിൽ ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെ വിലയുണ്ട്. കുന്നത്തുനാട്ട ഒരു വലിയ താലൂക്കാണ്. ൪൦ മൈൽ നീളത്തിൽ കായലോരം മുതൽ മലയോരംവരെ കിടക്കുന്ന ഒരു താലൂക്കാണ്. കായലോരത്തിനടുത്തുള്ള സ്ഥലത്താണ് മി: സി. പി. തരകൻ താമസിക്കുന്നത്. അദ്ദേഹം അതിനടുത്ത സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലെ കാര്യമായിരിക്കാം പറഞ്ഞതു.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): മൂവാറ്റുപുഴവരെ കൊണ്ടുവരേണ്ടതായ ചാർജ്ജുകൂടി ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തിയാണോ ഈ വില?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): എന്തെല്ലാം ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തിയാലും വില്പന ഇങ്ങിനെയാണ്.

MR. N. V. JOSEPH (*Parur*): മൂവാറ്റുപുഴ താലൂക്കിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു മുഴുവൻ സംഗതികളും മെമ്പർക്കറിയാൻപാടില്ലെങ്കിലും കുന്നത്തുനാട്ടതാലൂക്കിലെ സംഗതികൾ മുഴുവനും മി: സി. പി. തരകന് അറിയാമെന്നു വരുന്നതെ?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): ഒരു താലൂക്കിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചുള്ള മുഴുവൻ സംഗതിയും ഒരുത്തക്കും നല്ലവണ്ണം അറിഞ്ഞുകൂടാ എന്ന് എനിക്കു ബോദ്ധ്യമുണ്ട്.

MR. N. V. JOSEPH (*Parur*): മൂവാറ്റുപുഴ താലൂക്കിൽ ഏതു പകുതിയിലാണ് കക്കാക്കു വില കൂടുതലുള്ളതു?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): സാമാന്യമായിട്ടു താലൂക്കൊട്ടുക്കു വില കൂടുതൽ ആണു. ആറു ചക്രം മുതൽ ഏഴു ചക്രംവരെ കൊടുത്തു വാങ്ങിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു.

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): ഒരുചക്രംകൊടുത്തു വാങ്ങിക്കൊണ്ടിരുന്നതു് ഏപ്പോഴാണു്?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): രണ്ടുമൂന്നു വർഷത്തിനുമുമ്പെയാണു്; മാസവും തീയതിയും നിശ്ചയമില്ല.

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MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): കല്ലിന്റെറയും മണ്ണിന്റെറയും വില ക്രൂടീട്ടുണ്ടോ?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): കല്ലും മണ്ണും അവിടങ്ങളിൽ വിലകൊടുത്തു വാങ്ങിക്കാറില്ല.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): കല്ലും മണ്ണും കൊണ്ടുവരുന്നതിനുള്ള ക്രൂലി ക്രൂടീട്ടുണ്ടോ?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): സാധാരണക്രൂലിക്രൂടീട്ടുള്ളതുപോലെ അവിടേയും കുറെ ക്രൂടീട്ടുണ്ട്.

MR. M. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Agastisvaram*): കക്കാശേഖരിക്കുന്ന സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ മുമ്പിലത്തേക്കാൾ ഇപ്പോൾ വില എത്ര വർദ്ധിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): കക്കാശേഖരിക്കുന്ന സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ ഞാൻ പോയി മനസ്സിലാക്കീട്ടില്ല. അവിടെ നിന്നു കക്കാകൊണ്ടു വന്നു വിൽക്കുന്ന സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ വില ക്രൂടുതൽ ഉണ്ട്.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): കൺട്രാക്ട് കൊടുത്തതുകൊണ്ടു വിലവർദ്ധിച്ചതാണെങ്കിൽ കക്കാശേഖരിക്കുന്ന സ്ഥലത്തും വില വർദ്ധിച്ചിരിക്കുമല്ലോ?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): കാരണമെന്തായാലും ഒരു ലേലം തുടങ്ങിയതിനു ശേഷമാണു കക്കായുടെ വില വളരെ വർദ്ധിച്ചതു്.

ജനങ്ങൾക്കു് അത്യാവശ്യമായ വളമിടൽ, പുരപണി മുതലായ കാര്യങ്ങളിൽ ഇതു നിമിത്തം ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ള ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടിനെ ഞാൻ ശക്തിയായി ഇവിടെ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചു കൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): തെങ്ങിനും കക്കാവളമായിട്ടുപയോഗിക്കുമോ?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): പല കൃഷികൾക്കും ഉപയോഗിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഉൾനാടുകളിൽ കക്കായുടെ വിലക്രൂടുതൽ ഉള്ളതുകൊണ്ടു അതു് വളം ആയിട്ടു ഉപയോഗിക്കുന്നതിൽ നിന്നും വിരമിച്ചുതുടങ്ങിയിരിക്കുന്നു.

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheres*): One reason urged against the leasing of lime-shells is the abnormal rise in the price of lime. Mr. Kunjitomman has stated that the price of lime has increased sevenfold. He says he was buying one *para* of lime

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[Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai.]

at one chackram about 3 or 4 years ago and that he has now to pay seven chackrams for the same quantity. I really do not know how he is going to substantiate his statement except probably by a mere assertion that it is so. Sir, I can state boldly that this is a very highly exaggerated statement for this simple reason, that, even at Kumarakam, the place where the shells are collected, the price during the pre-lease period could not have been much less than the price which according to Mr. Kunjitomman was current at Kotamangalam.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): മൂവാറ്റുപുഴ താലൂക്കിൽ കോതമംഗലം മുതലായ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ ചെന്ന കക്കായുടെ വില അന്വേഷിച്ചശേഷമാണോ ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞത് അതിശയോക്തി ആണെന്ന പറയുന്നത്?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞതിനെ സ്ഥാപിക്കാമെന്ന വിചാരിക്കയാണ്. മെമ്പർ പറഞ്ഞത് അതിശയോക്തി തന്നെയാണ്.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): ഡയറക്ടർ അവിടെവന്ന കക്കായുടെ വിലയെപ്പറ്റി അന്വേഷിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): ഇല്ല.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): May I know why he questions the *bona fides* of Mr. Kunjitomman's statement?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): I have got facts to show that his is an exaggerated statement. At Kumarakam, where lime-shells are collected, there are certain people whose profession is the collection of shells. Whoever takes shells from there, the wages of collection have to be paid. The collector has to be paid about twelve cash for one *patta* of shells. Formerly, he was paid eight or ten cash. Now the divers do not collect shells unless they are paid twelve cash. I may say that one *patta* is equal to one and a half *paras*. So, for the mere collection of shells you have to pay twelve cash and transporting charges all the way from Kumarakom to Kotamangalam will be pretty heavy because *vallams* have to go up the Muvattupuzha river against the current. When such is the case, I really cannot for moment think how Mr. Kunjitomman was able to purchase lime at one chackram per *patta* some three or four years ago. I can very well understand if he says that the price was two or three chackrams some three years ago and that it has doubled itself now.

MR. N. V. JOSEPH (*Parur*): May I know whether a *para* referred to by Dr. Kunjan Pillai is the same measure as that referred to by Mr. Kunjitomman?

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DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): One and a half *paras* are equal to one *patta*, and, for the collection of one *patta*, we have to pay 12 cash. Mr. Kunjitomman said that he was getting one *para* for one chackram there. If you take transporting charges into consideration, I say this was impossible.

Somebody referred to the profit derived by middlemen. Even during the pre-lease period, there were a large number of middlemen. One man bought shells from the divers and sold them to another. He converted them into lime and sold it to a third man who took it to Kotamangalam. Under such conditions, it was not possible for one to get one *para* of lime at one chackram at Kotamangalam.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): May I know how many *paras* of shell a labourer will be able to collect in a day?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): I was told a clever labourer will earn about 12 annas to one rupee a day.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): How many years ago was the rate of 12 cash prevailing?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): That is the present rate.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): What was the charge demanded by a labourer some six years ago?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): Probably the labourers were satisfied with eight or ten cash. I cannot say positively that that was the rate. Anyhow, the present rate is 12 cash.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): What Mr. Kunjitomman said was that some years ago he was getting it at one chackram at Kotamangalam.

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): He said three or four years ago.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): I wish to know from Dr. Kunjan Pillai whether he says that three or four years ago, *i. e.*, the time to which Mr. Kunjitomman was referring, the rate was twelve cash?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): Probably it may be; so that there could not be much difference in the rates.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): May I know whether he is sure of it?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): I am not quite sure. Now the labourers are paid twelve cash.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): ഈ കക്കാലേലം ഏർപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതിനുമുമ്പ് ആലപ്പുഴ മുതലായ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലേക്കു നെല്ലു കൊണ്ടുപോകുന്ന വള്ളങ്ങൾ തിരിയെവരുമ്പോൾ

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[Mr. Tariatu Kunjitomman.]

കക്കാ കയറ്റി മുവാറ്റുപുഴ മുതലായ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലേക്കു കൊണ്ടുവരിക യാണു പതിവെന്നും, ലേലം തുടങ്ങിയശേഷം വിലക്കുറ്റതലിനാലും ഒരു സ്ഥലത്തു നിന്നുതന്നെ ചെന്നു വാങ്ങേണ്ടതിനാലും അങ്ങിനെ കൊണ്ടു വരുന്നില്ലെന്നും മനസ്സിലായിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): മുമ്പിലത്തെപ്പോലെതന്നെ ഇപ്പോഴും പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്നതിനു യാതൊരു തടസ്സമുണ്ടാകുമെന്നു തോന്നുന്നില്ല.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha cum Todupuzha*): കുത്തകക്കാരന്റെ സമ്മതമില്ലാതെ കക്കാ കൊണ്ടുപോകാമോ?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): കുത്തകക്കാരുടെ അടുക്കൽ ചെന്നാൽ കക്കാ കിട്ടും. അവർ കൊടുക്കാൻ തയ്യാറാണ്.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha cum Todupuzha*): ജലമാർഗ്ഗമായിട്ടു ബോധിച്ചിടത്തു നിന്നെല്ലാം കക്കാ കൊണ്ടുപോകാൻ ഇപ്പോൾ സാധിക്കയില്ല.

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): ഏതുവഴിപോയാലും കക്കാ കിട്ടുകയില്ല. കുമരകത്തു പോയാലെ കിട്ടുകയുള്ളു.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha cum Todupuzha*): പുളിങ്കുന്നിൽ മുമ്പെ കക്കാ വാരി വിറ്റവരുണ്ടോ?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): പുളിംകുന്നിൽ നിന്നും കക്കാ വാരാൻ ഇപ്പോഴും തടസ്സം ചെയ്തിട്ടില്ല.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha cum Todupuzha*): പുളിങ്കുന്നിൽ നിന്നും കക്കാകൊണ്ടുവന്നാൽ അതിന് കുത്തകക്കാരൻ തടസ്ഥം പറയുകയില്ലേ?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): അങ്ങിനെ ചെയ്യുന്നവെങ്കിൽ അതിനെ തടുക്കുന്നതിനു ഗവർമെന്റിനു അധികാരമുണ്ട്.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha cum Todupuzha*): അതിനെതെളിയികണമല്ലോ. അതു കുത്തകക്കാരന്റെ സ്ഥലത്തു ള്ളതല്ലെന്നു തെളിയിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുമോ?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): കുമരകത്തു മാത്രമേ കുത്തകകൊടുത്തിട്ടുള്ളു.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha cum Todupuzha*): വേറെ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നും കൊണ്ടു വന്നാലും അതു കുമരകത്തു നിന്നു മാണ് എന്നു വാദിച്ചാൽ അല്ലെന്നു തെളിയിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുമോ?

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DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): ന്യായീകരിക്കാം.

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*): Do I understand the Director to say that this is confined to a small portion of Kumarakam? I think it extends over the whole of Vembanad lake practically.

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): No, it is not confined only to Kumarakam. It extends from Ariyad light up to Vaikam so that Pulinkunnu is out of this jurisdiction.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyttinkara*): May I know why they were forced to auction lime-shells?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): I am coming to that.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Sir,—

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: What is the use of questioning before he finishes the explanation? Let him finish his speech first.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): May I know from the Director what is the principle underlying the auction?

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Let me ask him one question as regards details of the price—

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I have no objection to allow you to ask any number of questions. Let him finish his speech first.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): At what price lime-shells can be got now at Kumarakom?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): May I know what kind of lime?

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): For ordinary shells.

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): It costs one anna per *patta*.

Much has been made of the increase in price. I have got figures to show that there has not been abnormal increase in the price of lime. Here and there, there may be some rise in prices, but it cannot be so large as to justify the abolition of the system of leasing altogether. I cannot say positively what the price is at present at Kotamangalam. I have got the prices current at Trivandrum, Quilon, Kayankulam and Kundara. I got these figures from the Public Works Department because they are the largest consumers of lime.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): Have you no figures for Kottayam?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): Yes. I have got those figures also.

The following were the prices of lime from 1097 to 1100:—

Trivandrum Division—according to the Executive Engineer's letter—6 Chackrams 13¾ Cash in 1098 and 6 Chackrams in 1100 per cubic foot.

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[Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai.]

Quilon Division—according to the Executive Engineer's letter—(*a*) Quilon 6 Chackrams in 1097 and right through 6 Chackrams till 1100; (*b*) Kayankulam $6\frac{3}{4}$ Chackrams in 1097, 8 Chackrams in 1098 and 6 Chackrams in 1099 and 1100; (*c*) Kundara 7 Chackrams in 1097, $7\frac{3}{4}$ Chackrams in 1098 and 6 Chackrams in 1099 and 1100.

Kottayam Division—according to the Executive Engineer's letter—$3\frac{1}{2}$ Chs. in 1097 and $3\frac{1}{2}$ Chackrams in 1098 per kerosine tin.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): കൺട്രാക്ടർ യഥേഷ്ടം വിലകൂട്ടി വില്ക്കുന്നതിനെ നിയന്ത്രിക്കാൻ വല്ല നിയമവും ഉണ്ടോ?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): ഉണ്ട്. ഇന്ന വിലയ്ക്കു വില്ക്കണമെന്ന വ്യവസ്ഥയുണ്ട്.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): ഇന്നയിന്ന താലൂക്കുകളിലേക്കു ഇന്നയിന്ന വിലയ്ക്കു വില്ക്കണമെന്ന വ്യവസ്ഥയുണ്ടോ?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): ഇപ്പോൾ കുമരകം, കോട്ടയം, മുവാറ്റുപുഴ മുതലായ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലേക്കു വ്യവസ്ഥചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. എല്ലാ താലൂക്കുകളിലേക്കും അങ്ങിനെ വ്യവസ്ഥ ചെയ്തിട്ടില്ല. മറ്റു താലൂക്കുകളിലേക്കും ആവശ്യം ഉണ്ട് എന്ന് ആരെങ്കിലും അറിയിക്കുന്നപക്ഷം അവിടങ്ങളിലും വ്യവസ്ഥപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതിൽ വിരോധമില്ല.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ ലേലക്കാരൻ ലാഭത്തെമാത്രം ഗണിച്ചു് യുക്തമെന്നു തോന്നുന്ന വിലയ്ക്കു വില്പന നടത്തുകയല്ലേ ചെയ്യുന്നതു?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): അല്ല. ഇന്ന വിലക്കു കൊടുക്കണമെന്നു നിശ്ചയിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. അതനുസരിച്ചാണ് വിൽക്കുന്നതു്.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): കഴിഞ്ഞ ബഡ്ജറ്റുസമ്മേളനത്തിൽ തന്നെ മൂവാറ്റുപുഴ മുതലായ താലൂക്കുകളിൽ കക്കായ്ക്കു വില വളരെ കൂടുതൽ ഉണ്ടെന്നും ആവശ്യക്കാർ ധാരാളമുണ്ടെന്നും പറഞ്ഞിട്ടില്ലേ?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): ആവശ്യമുണ്ടെന്ന് എന്നെ അറിയിച്ചാൽ കൺട്രാക്ടർമാരോടു വേണ്ട ഏർപ്പാടു ചെയ്യുമായിരുന്നു.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): അങ്ങിനെ ഓരോരുത്തരും അറിയിക്കണോ?

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DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): അങ്ങിനെ അറിയിച്ചാലെ അതിനെ പരിഹരിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കയുള്ളൂ.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*) കുത്തകക്കാരൻ വിലകുട്ടിവിറ്റാൽ ഉള്ള ശിക്ഷയെന്താണ്?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): ലൈസൻസ് എടുത്തുകളയാൻ ഗവർണ്മെൻറിന് അധികാരമുണ്ട്.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): അങ്ങിനെ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): ഉണ്ട്.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): മൂവാറ്റുപുഴ മുതലായ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ വില കുട്ടിവിറ്റാലും ലൈസൻസ് എടുത്തുകളയുമോ?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): മൂവാറ്റുപുഴയുടെ കാര്യം ഞാൻ പറയുന്നില്ല. അവിടെ ഇന്നവിലയ്ക്കു വില്ക്കണമെന്ന് ഇപ്പോൾ വ്യവസ്ഥ ചെയ്തിട്ടില്ല.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): May I know the price at Kumarakam?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): It is one anna per *patta* of raw shells and 10 *pattas* of slaked lime per rupee.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: You may go on with your speech, Mr. Kunjan Pillai.

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): Then, Sir, in Quilon, Kayankulam and Kottayam, the price was $3\frac{1}{2}$ chs. per *patta* in 1097 and in the subsequent years. Therefore, Sir, from the information that I have been able to collect from the Public Works Department which is the largest consumer of lime in the State, it is seen that the price of lime has not gone up, after the lease, from what it was in 1097, *i. e.*, before the lease. Of all places in Travancore, I am sure Trivandrum consumes the largest quantity of lime. I am sure even for the construction of private houses, there is no other place in Travancore where a larger quantity of lime is consumed than Trivandrum. In Trivandrum, Sir, the price is practically the same as it was before the lease.

Much has been said, Sir, about the increase in the price of lime on account of the lease. The increase has been brought about, not merely by the lease, but by ever so many other circumstances. The price of charcoal has gone high, and charcoal is absolutely necessary for burning shells. Mr. Kunjitomman was complaining of the high price in Kotamangalam. But, look at the cost of transport from Kumarakam to Kotamangalam? Probably, four or five years ago, it could have been possible to get a *vallam* for five rupees. But now you will have to pay at least double or treble that amount to carry the same quantity of lime. The cost of transport has gone very high. These are some of the other

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[Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai.]

factors that have contributed mainly to the increase in the price of lime. That the lease is not the only factor which has caused the increase is evident from the fact that in places easily accessible by water, such as Quilon and other places, the price has not increased. It is only 3½ chackrams per *patta*. It is only in the interior that the price has gone high, and that is because of the increase in the cost of transport. My friend Mr. C. P. Kochukunju Pillai may complain that the price of lime at Kottarakara has gone high. That is also because of the cost of transporting lime to Kottarakara.

MR. C. P. TARAKAN (*Kunnatnad*) : തിരുവനന്തപുരത്തു വിലകൂടീട്ടില്ല എന്നു ഡയറക്ടരുടെ സ്വന്തഅനുഭവം കൊണ്ടുപറയുകയാണോ അതല്ല ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലെ അറിവുകൊണ്ടുപറയുകയാണോ ?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*) : എന്റെ സ്വന്തഅനുഭവം കൊണ്ടും പറയുന്നതാണ്. മറ്റുള്ളവരുടെ അഭിപ്രായം ഞാൻ അന്വേഷിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്.

Then, Sir, the question has been raised "Is it after all necessary to have this lease?" I admit that the amount which the Government get out of this lease is only Rs. 5,000 or Rs. 6,000. Probably, in future, if the lease is continued, the Government may get something more. But the question is whether it is necessary to have any sort of control over the collection of lime-shells, whether it be in the form of lease or by the issue of license. My own view is that it is absolutely necessary to have some sort of control over the collection of lime-shells. It is very essential to prevent indiscriminate collection because, if indiscriminate collection is allowed, a time may come when the supply of shells may be exhausted. Moreover, in certain places, where shell-fish are breeding, no destruction of fish should be allowed. Such places should be closed and the collection of shells from such places should be prohibitted. As I have stated already, if indiscriminate collection of lime-shells is allowed, a time may come when lime will not be available; and then the non-official gentlemen, who are now complaining of rise in the price of lime, may come forward and complain that shells are not available at all and that the Government ought to have exercised some sort of control over their collection. Therefore, Sir, it is absolutely necessary that some sort of control, whether by means of a lease or by means of a license, should be exercised over the collection of lime-shells. The Government have not yet definitely decided as to whether they should continue the lease or should have some other form of control over the collection.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*) : May I know how the control is exercised by the Government now?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*) : The Director of Agriculture has got control over the collection by the leases.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*) : Is the contractor prevented from collecting as much shell as he likes?

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DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): He is prevented from collecting them in particular areas.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): Am I to understand that particular areas have been marked out, and that, in those areas, he is not allowed to collect?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): Yes; and, if the system of leasing is to continue, we are going to stipulate some more conditions also.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): In places where he is allowed to collect, is he not at liberty to collect any quantity he likes?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): No; he should not collect more than what he could dispose of within the year. He should not have a balance of stock.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): Has it been ascertained whether, at the end of last year, he had any balance?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): The Government will confiscate the balance of stock if there is any.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): Is there any condition like that?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): Yes, there is a condition like that.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): Has the Director of Agriculture ascertained whether at the end of 1101 any balance had been left?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): I propose to go to the place to find out whether there is any balance and to see what we should do in regard to that.

Therefore, Sir, in the interests of the people, in order that the whole supply of shells may not be exhausted, I think it is absolutely necessary to have some sort of control over the collection. The Government have not decided definitely, as I have already stated, as to whether they should continue the system of leasing or they should think of other methods of exercising an effective control. It is left to the House to decide whether the system of leasing should be continued or not.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): What is the income derived from this lease?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): It is about five or six thousand rupees. I have already stated that.

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry; North*): Am I to understand from the Director that the Government bench will remain neutral on this question?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): Since it is found that it is the wish of a large number of the non-official members of this House that the system of leasing should be abolished, the Government are led to think that there is some grievance. The Government have therefore decided to remain neutral on this question.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): Only two members have spoken on the subject. From this how could the Director of Agriculture conclude that it is a general grievance?

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MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether *kakka* is used largely for manurial purposes?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): To some extent, it is being used as manure, especially, for *punja* lands and *kari* lands. With regard to that, I may say that those who really want lime for *bona fide* agricultural purposes can get it from the contractor at a concession rate. The Government have arranged with the contractor to sell lime-shells at 1½ chackrams or even 1¼ chackrams per *patta* for *bona fide* agricultural purposes.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Quilon*): I did not understand the attitude of the Government in this matter. Does the Director of Agriculture think that, if indiscriminate collection of lime is allowed, the source of supply will be exhausted?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): That is my personal opinion. Probably, the time may come when the supply may be exhausted if indiscriminate collection is allowed.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Quilon*): Therefore, he thinks that it is absolutely necessary to have some control over the matter?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): That is my own personal opinion. But the Government think that they would rather leave the matter to the House to decide whether leasing should be continued.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Quilon*): I want his expert opinion on the matter.

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): There should be some sort of control over the collection of lime-shells. Whether it should be in the form of a lease or in some other form is a matter to be decided later on.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): May I know whether, at present, there is any restriction as to the quantity that can be collected by the contractor?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): The contractor should not collect more than what he could dispose of in the year. I have already stated that.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): I beg his pardon, Sir.

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*): Is there any provision for the cancellation of his license, or lease, in case it is found that he has collected more than what he could dispose of in the year?

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*): We may put in some such restriction, if necessary, if the lease is to be continued.

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*): Sir, as a matter of fact, I do not think that any effective restriction or

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control is now being exercised over the collection of lime-shells. Even in the absence of the lease, the quantity of shells collected is sure to be regulated by the demand. I am living close to the field of operations and I have some intimate knowledge as to what is going on there. There is a large number of Ezhava divers there. Formerly, they were collecting shells on their own account. Now, the same set of persons are collecting shells for the contractor. That is the only difference between what was taking place before the lease and what is going on now. Probably, there may come a time when it will be possible to exercise some control over the matter. But, I can assure the House, from my own knowledge of the question, that, at present, no effective control is being exercised over the collection of lime-shells. Seeing that there is a large volume of public opinion against the continuance of the system, that, at present, the income derived by the Government is not appreciable and that there are no sufficient compensating advantages, I should think that it is not desirable to continue the contract any longer. The feeling among those who are against the continuance of the contract is I should say, inspired—at least, partly—by a sort of personal spite against the contractor who seems to make a lot of profit out of this contract. There is such a feeling among some of those who have been agitating for the abolition of the contract.

DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries*) : May I point out to the member that, when the lease was auctioned last year, several gentlemen from Kumarakam were present at the auction. They raised the amount as much as they could and on being asked why they did not raise it further, they replied that it would not be possible for them to get any appreciable profit if they raised it further ?

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*) : I know why other people of the locality were not able to raise the price above the offer of the present contractor. It seems the present contractor had accumulated a large stock of shells worth about twenty or thirty thousand rupees. Therefore, if any person newly entered into the contract, the old contractor could easily create a corner and ruin the newcomer. He had already made large profits in the previous years and need not, therefore, have cared about his losing something this year. That was the reason why the other bidders were not in a position to compete with him. This is the information that I got from the persons who came from Kumarakam. I have been trying to understand the question from both sides. I have asked the contractor himself and I have also talked with persons who oppose the present system.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : May I know whether he took any steps to inform the Director of Agriculture about it ?

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*) : About what ?

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : About the fact that the old contractor had accumulated a large stock of lime-shells and was, therefore, in a convenient position as against new bidders.

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MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*) : Both the Government and the Director of Agriculture knew that he had a large stock. One reason why the contract was renewed was that the old contractor had accumulated a large stock and that it was thought that he would be ruined if he was not allowed to have the contract for another year.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*) : May I know whether that was not an infringement of the license, given to the contractor, since he had the right to collect only the quantity that could be disposed of within the year ?

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*) : I think that is a matter which is better known to the Director of Agriculture than myself.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*) : Am I to understand that, according to Mr. Mammen Mappillai, the authorities are not discharging their duties properly ?

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*) : I am surprised to find that my friend Mr. C. P. Thomas, of all persons, should ask such a question. What I said was that the present system of leasing does not involve any control more than what could have been exercised before this was started.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : Your time is up.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*) : May I know whether there is need for control, according to Mr. Mammen Mappillai ?

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*) : I asked the contractor and he tells me that, at present, there is no sign of exhaustion of lime-shells. He told me that in a particular field he paid extra wages to the divers and tried his best to exhaust the shells there and that he found in the end that the supply was inexhaustible. Probably, a time may come when the supply will get exhausted. I am sure we will have sufficient warning beforehand. I think it will be enough if the Government step in then.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : We will now rise and meet again at 11-30 tomorrow.

The Council adjourned at 4-30 P. M.

T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

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